participated in Chauri -Chaura incident was pending with the Government of Uttar Pradesh as on 31st March, 2007.

(d) Cases of eleven dependent of freedom fighters were received and disposed of by the Government of Uttar Pradesh in the year 2006-07. None of the 11 applicants was found to be eligible for pension.

World Trade and Development Index Report

*298. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite booming global trade relations being enjoyed by India, the recently released World Trade and Development Index Report by UNCTAD has ranked India at 85th position out of 126 countries;

(b) what are the benchmarks used for assessing the rank of a nation in the Trade and Development Index; and

(c) whether India's economic and social well-being indicator scores are among the lowest at 187, much lower than sub-Saharan Africa's average of 218?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) The UNCTAD has ranked India at 86th position in its Report "Developing Countries in International Trade 2007 — Trade Development Index (TDI)". The report has pointed out that India has improved its TDI score from 413 in 2005 to 433 in 2006. The components of TDI include international finance, macro-economic stability, domestic finance, financial intermediation, institutional quality, trade performance, human capital, physical infrastructure, economic structure, environmental sustainability, openness to trade, foreign market access, and economie & social well-being. In the analysis the developing countries' performance has been benchmarked against the TDI scores of developed countries, and EU 10 countries have been benchmarked against those of developing countries. India's score on economic and social well being is 187 as against average of 218 for the Sub-Saharan Africa Region.

Illegal migrants in Assam

*299. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the status paper of his Ministry on "Internal security situation" has strikingly bypassed illegal Bangladeshi migrants' threat to the country;

(b) whether Supreme Court on July 14, 2005 ruled that the Centre had not done its duty to protect Assam from 'external aggression';

(c) the steps taken by Government to protect Assam from such aggression;

(d) the steps taken by Government to deport those illegal migrants;

(e) whether Government has fixed any time frame to give complete relief to the State; and

(f) whether there is any proposal to update National Register of Citizen (NRC), 1951?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) The status paper, *inter alia* mentions that "effective border management is vital to maintenance of internal security".

(b) to (e) The Hon'ble Supreme Court in Writ Petition No. 131/2000 in the matter of Sarbanand Sonowal Vs Union of India, held that the Illegal Migrants (Determinations by Tribunals) Act, 1983 and the Rules made thereunder, are ultra vires and struck it down. The Hon'ble Supreme Court *inter-alia*, directed that all cases shall be decided in the manner provided in the Foreigners Act, the Rules made thereunder and the procedure prescribed under the Foreigners (Tribunals) Order, 1964. The Government was also directed to constitute sufficient number of Tribunals under the Foreigners (Tribunals) Order, to effectively deal with cases of foreigners, who have illegally come from Bangladesh or are illegally residing in Assam. Keeping in view the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, 21 additional Foreigners Tribunals have been established and now 32 Foreigners Tribunals are functioning in the State of Assam.

The Government has also taken various other measures to curb illegal influx into the country, which, *inter-alia*, include strengthening of Border Security Force (BSF) and equipping them with modern and sophisticated equipments/gadgets; reduction in gaps between border outposts; intensification of patrolling; and a comprehensive programme of construction of border roads and border fencing/floodlighting etc. Besides, administrative instructions are also issued to the State Governments and UT Administrations from time to time to take sustained action to detect foreign nationals, including Bangladeshi nationals, staying illegally in the country, and for their immediate deportation. A total of 83050 Bangladeshi nationals have been deported from India between the years 2003-06. This is an ongoing process.

(f) The Government of Assam has reported that preliminary works for updating the National Register of Citizens (NRC), 1951 have been started. The data entry of the available electoral rolls upto 1971 and the NRC as available have been taken up. The State Government has been advised to work out the modalities in this regard.

Filling up of vacancies in CRPF

*300. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 4511 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 16th May, 2007 and state:

(a) the number of vacancies in various cadres filled in Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) upto 30th November, 2007, particularly where they were even more than 40 per cent of the sanctioned strength; and

(b) the specific steps taken during the year to remove bottlenecks in the process of recruitments and promotions so that the vacancies do not affect the efficiency of the Force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) The number of vacancies of Group B (GOs) and Group B (NGOs) were exceeding 40% of the sanctioned strength. The number of vacancies in these cadres as on 31.3.2007 and filled upto 30.11.2007 are as under:—